

Historical Society of East Hartford

Newsletter, January 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The new year has arrived. I wish all the members of the Historical Society of East Hartford a year of health, prosperity, peace, and love.

This new year will require the HSEH to address concerns about the Hockanum School, the Martin Park structures, maintenance of the Selden Brewer House (which is an architectural gem in our community), membership, etcetera. Further dialogue, understanding, and support will be encouraged between the Town of East Hartford and the HSEH. Raymond Library will be on our list to cooperate with any programs and efforts they present to preserve and understand the history of our community.

The past year 2019 was a positive year in that the HSEH was able to move forward, revising and approving the By Laws, having many activities at the Raymond Library and the Selden Brewer House, placing a new roof on the Huguenot house, and welcoming new members. This momentum will be with us as we move forward in the new year.

When I say “we”, I mean all of us who are members of the HSEH. The HSEH has a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and interests among its members. I trust that they will contribute these valuable attributes to the progress and prosperity of the Society.

Again, please accept our best wishes for a productive and fruitful 2020.

Steven Strange, M.A., M.S., President, Historical Society of East Hartford

JAN 15th PROGRAM ON “VOTES FOR WOMEN, 1919”

The Historical Society is proud to present as its guest speaker former State Senator Mary Ann Handley who will give a program on the passage of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution for the American women's right to vote. Ratification of the amendment actually occurred in 1920, so 2020 will be the 100th anniversary of this milestone achievement in women's rights. Mary Ann's lecture will provide us with a better understanding of the women's suffrage movement, a long and arduous journey that dragged on for many decades. Mary Ann, a retired Manchester Community College history professor, has done much research on women's suffrage so this lecture done last autumn at the Manchester Historical Society will be very interesting. Bill Ludwig, who is known as the Town of Manchester Troubadour, will present music of the period to accompany Mary Ann's talk. There will be time allotted for questions and answers.

Our Historical Society will have its regular business meeting shortly after the program for attending members. Inclement winter weather will cancel, so if in doubt check the on-line cancellations of local television stations or the HSEH Facebook page or website. If canceled due to weather the program will be rescheduled to our March 2020 meeting at the East Hartford Library which has been made unavailable to us for this month's meeting.

The Wednesday, January 15th program will be held at the Selden Brewer House, 167 Main Street, East Hartford and is open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Parking is available in the front lot. The doors will open at 6:00pm and the program will start at 6:30pm.

For any questions, please call Craig Johnson at 860-568-2884 and leave a message.

Craig Johnson, Vice President / Program Chair

SOCIETY SHOWS OLDER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PHOTOS

There is a Winter Display of old East Hartford High School Graduation Photos at the Raymond Library. Ruthie found a collection of class graduation groups, all smiling and all looking happy. However, she did not find dates on the photos. All too often the case as she and Karen have found on many pieces in the collection at the Brewer House.

So Ruthie decided that putting them on display might not only be fun for those that visit but also bring some much needed attention to the Historical Society, what they have and what they are about.

The 5 undated photos they believe are from the 1950's. There are some of the 1941 and 1943 class reunion gatherings also on display in the large enclosed display case. The exhibit will be up through February, when we plan to have a Saturday (tentatively Feb. 22) social program to discuss these and other older class photos that will be on display that day. So please stay tuned for that announcement.

If you visit the library exhibit you will find a handout regarding the memories of one past student. Did you know that early on South Windsor students also came to East Hartford for High School as they did not yet have their own? Their first High School was opened in 1928.

Also available is a sheet for you to make comments or list names of those you can identify in the photos. At our February program will be giving out some prizes to those who helped out the most.

Historical Society of East Hartford

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indiv \$15, 1 address \$20, student \$10,
patron \$50, lifetime \$250

Deadline Mar Newsletter – Feb 29, 2020

January Program

Date: **Wed, Jan 15, 2020**

Program: **“Votes for Women, 1919”**

Speaker: **Mary Ann Handley,
Former State Senator &
MCC History Professor**

Where: **Selden Brewer House**
Address: **167 Main St**

Time for program: **6:30 pm**

Fee: **none, public welcome**

Info: **Craig, 860-568-2884**

19th Amendment